

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LISBON 03172 131149Z

43

ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7096

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 3172

STATE FOR EUR/ARMITAGE, EUR/WE/BARBOUR, AND S/LL/GOOD

PARIS PLEASE PASS ROBERTS C/O DCM

STATE PLEASE PASS DEPARTMENT OF LABOR (I/LAB) AND MCLAUGHLIN
USIA/IEU

E.O. 11652: XGDS-4

TAGS: OEXC, PINT, PO, US, SP

SUBJECT: PROPOSED VISIT BY MINISTER OF LABOR JOAO PEDRO TOMAS ROSA

REFS: (A) LISBON 2546 (NOTAL); (B) LISBON 3120

SUMMARY: AS DEPARTMENT IS AWARE, MINISTER OF LABOR
TOMAS ROSA HAS PLAYED A PROMINENT ROLE IN ENCOURAGING
THE FAVORABLE TREND OF PORTUGUESE POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS.
HE IS ALSO A KEY INDIVIDUAL IN CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS
FOR RENEWAL OF THE CONTRACT FOR RADIO FREE EUROPE (RFE)
TRANSMISSION FACILITIES IN PORTUGAL. ROSA HAS EXPRESSED
INTEREST IN VISITING THE UNITED STATES, A DESIRE WHICH
BOTH THE BOARD OF INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING (BIB) AND
THE EMBASSY WARMLY ENDORSE IN THE BELIEF THAT SUCH A
VISIT WILL FURTHER U.S. INTERESTS. END SUMMARY.

1. AS PER REF (A) AND SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSION IN DEPT. DURING
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PAGE 02 LISBON 03172 131149Z

OKUN CONSULTATION, EMBASSY LABATT DISCUSSED INVITATION TO VISIT

THE UNITED STATES WITH MINISTER OF LABOR TOMAS ROSA MAY 11. ROSA STATED MOST SUITABLE TIMING WOULD BE THE FIRST WEEK OF JUNE, POSSIBLY ARRIVING ON MONDAY, MAY 31, FOR A SEVEN DAY VISIT. ROSA REGRETTED THAT HIS OFFICIAL DUTIES AND THE PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN WOULD NOT PERMIT LONGER STAY.

2. AS DEPARTMENT AWARE, ROSA WAS FY-1975 PARTIAL GRANTEE COVERING INTERNAL US TRAVEL ONLY. REFTELS DESCRIBE BACKGROUND FOR CURRENTLY PROPOSED VISIT UNDER BUB AUSPICES. BIODATA PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED REMAINS VALID, EXCEPT THAT ROSA HAS CHANGED SPELLING OF NAME FROM "TOMAZ" TO "TOMAS" TO AVOID IDENTIFICATION WITH FORMER PRESIDENT AMERICO TOMAZ.

3. EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS BIB PREPARED TO COVER EXPENSES OF ROSA WHILE IN U.S. AND TO HANDLE PROGRAMMING OF VISIT. BIB ALSO AWARE THAT ROSA PROPOSES TO TRAVEL WITH WIFE. WE RECOMMEND BIB PAY CATEGORY "A" PER DIEM FOR ROSA, WHICH WOULD ALLOW ENOUGH FOR MINIMAL EXPENSES OF ACCOMPANYING SPOUSE.

4. POSSIBILITY OF ARRANGING INTERNATIONAL ROUND-TRIP TRAVEL FOR ROSA AND WIFE GRATIS BY PORTUGUESE NATIONAL AIRLINE (TAP), WHICH DISCUSSED PREVIOUSLY WITH BIB, FOUND NOT FEASIBLE. ASSUME BIB/RFE CAN ARRANGE FUNDING FOR ROUND-TRIP INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL FOR ROSA AND WIFE. RFE/WASHINGTON EARLIER INDICATED TO EMBASSY'S PAO THAT RFE COULD ARRANGE FUNDING.

4. FOR DEPARTMENT OF LABOR: EMBASSY REQUESTS THAT SECRETARY OF LABOR USERY CONSIDER SENDING PERSONAL MESSAGE TO LABOR MINISTER ROSA EXTENDING INVITATION ON BEHALF OF USG TO VISIT US.

5. ROSA EXPRESSED INTEREST IN VISIT DESIGNED TO ESTABLISH MULTIPLE CONTACTS IN WASHINGTON. ALTHOUGH ROSA NOT OVERBEARING, HE HAS HIGH LEVEL POLITICAL AMBITIONS. PROGRAMMING VISIT AT SENIOR LEVELS WILL ALSO FACILITATE RFE NEGOTIATIONS. SUGGESTED CONTACTS ARE SECRETARY OF CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 LISBON 03172 131149Z

LABOR USERY, GEORGE MEANY, AS WELL AS APPROPRIATELY HIGH LEVELS IN STATE DEPARTMENT AND IN CONGRESS. ROSA ALSO INTERESTED IN DISCUSSING INTERNATIONAL LABOR SCENE, INCLUDING ILO. ADDITIONAL PROGRAMMING SUGGESTIONS AND BIOGRAPHIC DETAILS FOLLOW.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: FOR BIB. REQUEST BIB CONFIRM ARRANGEMENTS FOR TRAVEL, PER DIEM FUNDING, AND PROGRAMMING.

RECOMMEND BIB COORDINATE WITH EUR, S/IL, AND DEPARTMENT OF
LABOR FOR TELEGRAPHIC INVITATION TO ROSA FROM SECRETARY
OF LABOR.
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